

## Message Text

SECRET

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17

ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NEA-06 L-02 IGA-01 MC-02 INR-10

EB-03 EUR-10 RSC-01 DRC-01 /054 W

----- 068269

R 100638Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1180

INFO SECDEF WASHDC//ISA(SA)/DSAA//

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER//ECJ4/7-SAO-CD//

JCS WASHDC

S E C R E T KUWAIT 4379

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, KU

SUBJ: TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR KUWAIT (I HAWK)

1. AT A MEETING ON 9 OCT WITH DOD REP COL. COX COL ABDULLAH SUMEIT, VICE COMMANDER OF THE KUWAIT AIR FORCE STATED THAT THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE HAD DECIDED TO ASK THE UNITED STATES FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PERSONNEL TO ASSIST THE GOK WITH ESTABLISHING THEIR AIR DEFENSE SYSTEM. THE PERSONNEL DESIRED WOULD BE PRIMARILY MILITARY PERSONNEL QUALIFIED IN MAINTENANCE AND LOGISTIC SUPPORT OF THE IHAWK SYSTEM. WHILE NUMBERS WERE NOT SPECIFICALLY STATED, IT IS BELIEVED THAT ABOUT 200 IS CONTEMPLATED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF KUWAIT.

2. PREVIOUS DISCUSSIONS WITH KAF PERSONNEL HAVE REVEALED THAT THEY WILL BE ABLE TO MUSTER ABOUT ONE HALF OF THE 600 TECHNICALLY TRAINED/TRAINABLE PERSONNEL REQUIRED BY THE IHAWK SYSTEM IN A TIME FRAME COMPATIBLE WITH PROJECTED EQUIPMENT DELIVERIES.

3. KUWAITIS HAVE CONSIDERED HIRING CIVILIANS (WHICH WOULD BE THIRD COUNTRY NATIONALS) AND U.S. CONTRACTOR MAINTENANCE. THE FORMER HAS BEEN REJECTED FOR MANY REASONS SUCH AS MERCENARY

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FORCE, RELIABILITY, AVAILABILITY, ETC. THE LATTER IS ALSO

VIEWED WITH STRONG DISFAVOR FOR THE SAME REASONS IN LESSER DEGREES.

4. DOD REP EXPLAINED THIS SUBJECT TOO SENSITIVE FOR DISCUSSION UNTIL MINISTER OF DEFENSE BROACHES MATTER WITH AMERICAN AMBASSADOR.

5. COMMENT: WE HAVE RECEIVED NO INDICATION FROM MORE SENIOR GOK DEFENSE OFFICIALS THAT SUCH A REQUEST IS PENDING. WE ALSO UNAWARE OF POSSIBLE DISCUSSION SUBJECT BY SUMEIT OR OTHER DEFENSE MINISTRY OFFICIALS WITH OTHER KUWAITI AGENCIES OR OF CABINET-LEVEL CONSIDERATION. WE HAVE NOT AND WILL NOT UNLESS INSTRUCTED SUGGEST USG MIGHT LOOK FAVORABLY ON SUCH A REQUEST.  
MAU

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, PERSONNEL, AIR DEFENSE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 10 OCT 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Authority:** elyme  
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**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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